

Ballots invalid under this subpart shall not be counted.

§ 1209.306 Referendum report.

Except as otherwise directed, the referendum agent shall prepare and submit to the Administrator a report on results of the referendum, the manner in which it was conducted, the extent and kind of public notice given, and other information pertinent to analysis of the referendum and its results.

§ 1209.307 Confidential information.

The ballots and other information or reports that reveal, or tend to reveal, the identity or vote of any person covered under the Act shall be held confidential and shall not be disclosed.

Dated: December 11, 1997.

Sharon Bomer Lauritsen,

Associate Deputy Administrator, Fruit and Vegetable Programs.

[FR Doc. 97-32812 Filed 12-22-97; 8:45 am]

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

10 CFR Part 50

RIN 3150-AF73

Codes and Standards; IEEE National Consensus Standard, Withdrawal

AGENCY: Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Direct final rule; withdrawal.

SUMMARY: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission is withdrawing a direct final rule that would have amended Commission's regulations to incorporate by reference the most recent published version of IEEE Std. 603-1991, a national consensus standard for power, instrumentation, and control portions of safety systems in nuclear power plants. The NRC is taking this action because it has received significant adverse comments in response to an identical proposed rule which was concurrently published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Satish K. Aggarwal, Senior Program Manager, Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555. Telephone (301) 415-6005, Fax (301) 415-5074 (e-mail: SKA@NRC.GOV).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On October 17, 1997 (62 FR 53933), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission published in the **Federal Register** a direct final rule amending its regulations at 10 CFR 50.55a(h) to incorporate by reference the most recently published version of a national consensus standard. The direct final

rule was to become effective on January 1, 1998. The NRC also concurrently published an identical proposed rule on October 17, 1997 (62 FR 53975). In these documents, the NRC indicated that if it received significant adverse comments in response to this action, the NRC would withdraw the direct final rule and would consider the comments received as in response to the proposed rule and address these comments in a subsequent final rule. The NRC has received significant adverse comments on the direct final rule. Therefore, the Commission is withdrawing the October 17, 1997, direct final rule. The public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule issued in either a notice of final rulemaking or in a notice of withdrawal of the proposed rule.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 16th day of December, 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

John C. Hoyle,

Secretary of the Commission.

[FR Doc. 97-33424 Filed 12-22-97; 8:45 am]

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FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE BOARD

12 CFR Part 960

[No. 97-N-10]

Questions and Answers Regarding The Affordable Housing Program

AGENCY: Federal Housing Finance Board.

ACTION: Staff interpretation of affordable housing regulations.

SUMMARY: The Federal Housing Finance Board (Finance Board) is publishing Questions and Answers regarding the Affordable Housing Program (AHP). The Questions and Answers have been prepared by staff of the Finance Board in response to questions about changes in the Finance Board's regulation governing the AHP that will go into effect on January 1, 1998. The Questions and Answers constitute informal staff guidance for Finance Board personnel, the Federal Home Loan Banks (Bank), Bank members, and program participants. The Answers are intended to be interpretive of the Finance Board's regulation governing the AHP, and are not statements of agency policy. The Questions and Answers have not been considered or approved by the Board of Directors of the Finance Board.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard Tucker, Deputy Director, Compliance Assistance Division, (202) 408-2848, or Janet M. Fronckowiak, Program Analyst, Compliance

Assistance Division, (202) 408-2575, or Diane E. Dorius, Associate Director, Program Development Division, (202) 408-2576, Office of Policy, Federal Housing Finance Board, 1777 F Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On August 4, 1997, the Finance Board published a final rule amending its existing regulation governing the AHP. See 62 FR 41812 (Aug. 4, 1997). The final rule will become effective on January 1, 1998. In the months following publication of the final rule, the Finance Board has provided training to the staffs of the Banks to assist them in making a smooth transition to operation under the amended AHP regulation. A number of questions of regulatory interpretation were raised by Bank staff as a result of the Finance Board's training sessions. The staff of the Finance Board has prepared answers to the most frequently asked questions. The Questions and Answers constitute informal interpretive guidance for Finance Board personnel, the Banks, Bank members, and program participants. The Answers are intended to be interpretive of the AHP regulation, not statements of agency policy, and they have not been considered or approved by the Board of Directors of the Finance Board.

The Questions and Answers are grouped by the provision of the AHP regulation that they discuss and are presented in the same order as the regulatory provisions. The text of the Questions and Answers follows:

Text of the Questions and Answers

Questions and Answers Regarding the AHP

Definitions (§ 960.1)

Low- and Moderate-Income and Very Low-Income Household Eligibility for Current Occupants:

Q1. When a rental project involves both purchase and rehabilitation, which point in time should be used for purposes of determining household eligibility?

A1. The regulation permits a choice of determining income eligibility either at the time of completion of the purchase or at the time of completion of the rehabilitation.

Q2. In the case of projects involving the purchase or rehabilitation of rental housing with current occupants, can an occupying household that is a very low-income or a low- or moderate-income household at the time the AHP application is submitted to the Bank be deemed to be a very low-income or a low- or moderate-income household at